

REPUBLICAN RECORD

State Committee Tells Voters of New Jersey What Party Has Accomplished.

Since Coming Into Power, Twelve Years Ago, It Has Rescued the State from Intoligious "Boss" Rule and Enacted Many Excellent Laws in the Interest of the People.

Benefits to Labor.

The legislative contributions of the Republican party to the legitimate interests of labor have been such as to broaden the workman's opportunities and protect his interests in every possible way consistent with justice to others.

Notable among these statutes are four enactments, all directed against long standing and widely recognized abuses, namely:

The act of 1900, providing for the cash payment of wages at periods not longer than two weeks, which has been and is now of incalculable benefit to the large populations of the glass producing districts in the southern counties of our state, and also to the iron miners of the northern section, who had for generations been obliged to accept goods at company stores instead of the cash which they had honestly earned by their labor.

Second, the tenement house law of 1904, under which a board to control the erection of tenements was appointed, whose duty it is to see that structures in which of necessity large numbers of our population must find homes are provided with every safeguard of health known to modern sanitary and hygienic science.

Third, the general factory act of 1904, which fixes fourteen years as the minimum age at which children of either sex may be employed in factories or workshops, provides for the fullest possible protection for operatives in the matter of factory construction, the use of safeguards against accidents and the installation of such devices as are specially designed, like the exhaust fan, to mitigate the dangers of occupations known to be a menace to health.

Fourth, an act appointing a commission to revise the master and servant act in the interests of labor, an act greatly desired by laboring people.

New State Institutions.

There have been created by Republican legislation since 1894 these new and important state institutions, either built or authorized by statute, in addition to important enlargements and improvements of existing institutions:

The highway reformatory, cost \$1,045,281.

The state village for epileptics, cost \$312,950.33.

Home for soldiers and sailors and their wives, cost \$103,000.

Colored manual and training school.

A new state normal school (to be built this year).

A state tuberculosis sanitarium (in building).

State home for girls building, cost \$125,000.

State armories, cost \$681,320.

Two Millions For Improved Roads.

From 1894 to 1905 inclusive the state paid in state aid for improved roads a total of \$1,812,576.24. The appropriation last year was \$277,000. In 1893, the last year of Democratic control in the legislature, the appropriation was \$20,661.85. There had been no previous appropriation. Practically the entire system of state aided good roads in New Jersey is the result of Republican legislative appropriations. The legislature this year was extraordinarily liberal in giving to this important state object.

Under the state aid law of 1892 there were built, up to Nov. 1, 1905, a total of 1,111½ miles of improved roads at a cost to the state of \$1,925,441.14. Of this total only 37.89 miles were built prior to 1894, when the Democrats were in power in legislation.

New Jersey is today foremost of all the states in the extent of improved roads, and her example has been of immense benefit to the country at large, while the improvement has been of enormous benefit to New Jersey farmers and villagers and has vastly stimulated the growth of suburban places and the values of suburban and rural property. The greater economy of transportation for farmers and urban business houses, if capitalized, would far exceed the cost of state aid for improved road building.

How Equal Taxation Has Been Accomplished.

The legislation of the last two years has been described as epochal. A mere schedule of the most important acts passed in 1905 and 1906 will fully justify that description. It has been affirmed, and without contradiction, that the legislation of the two years is incomparably greater in its importance and far reaching beneficial effects than the sum of all the previous legislation in this state since the adoption of the constitution of 1844.

The greatest achievement of the last two years was the final settlement of the railroad tax question, which had been the great problem of state politics ever since the first railroad received a charter from the state.

Railroad enterprise in its infancy was attended with great hazard, but was welcomed by every community, and its development encouraged by consideration in the way of moderate taxes. The benefits that the state derived from railroad development were immeasurably greater than were the

injuries in the way of taxation. At that time taxes upon all kinds of property were much lower than in the present day. The railroads made possible the marvelous development of the resources of our state. Cities and towns sprang up and grew rapidly and the needs of this denser and congested population required an increasing amount for the support of municipal and state government. This increased taxation on all kinds of property, real and personal, called attention to the difference in the methods of taxation as between railroads and other kinds of property and resulted in the agitation of this question, so that in 1884 a Republican senate and a Democratic house enacted a railroad tax law that about doubled the amount of railroad taxes, but came short of equal taxation. The first break in this law was in 1897, when the legislature gave to the taxing districts all the income from the second class railroad taxes, amounting to about \$500,000 annually.

In 1904 the Republican party, true to its policy, took hold of the railroad tax question again and declared in the state convention for immediate legislation for the taxation of second class property at local rates, resulting in an increase of local taxes to municipalities of about one-half million dollars and declaring for the submission of the question of taxing the main stem to a commission for consideration and report upon that subject. The legislature of 1905 passed an act introduced by Assemblyman Dunfield, the Republican leader, providing for the taxation of second class railroad property at local rates. The legislature of this year took up the question of the so called main stem of railroads. The first bill introduced in the house of assembly was introduced by Mr. Perkins, the Republican leader. It was an equal tax measure. For weeks the various methods of reaching this end were discussed exhaustively at public hearings and in debates upon the floor, and after a free and open discussion of weeks the house and senate, without a dissenting voice, declared that the bill introduced by Mr. Perkins, the Republican leader, was the best measure that had been offered upon the subject, and it was thereupon enacted into law. The party pledge had been faithfully kept. The legislature, however, did not stop here. The Republican party is progressive. It passed an act providing that second class property should not only be taxed at local rates, but should be assessed locally. It then passed an act which reclassified railroad property and which increased the second class property by taking from the so called main stem all of the railroad stations and appurtenances outside of the right of way.

A decision of the supreme court had aided in the development of this policy by an interpretation limiting property heretofore included in the main stem, and increasing to that extent the amount of second class property. As the law now stands all terminals, switches, stations and railroad property of every kind outside of the main stem, which in no case exceeds 100 feet in width and in some cases not sixty feet, is assessed locally at the local rates for the benefit of the localities wherein the property lies. The main stem, now reduced to the property lying within the 100 foot limitation and extending through more than one city or township or county, is taxed at the average rate of the state for state uses, and by a special enactment all of the proceeds of this tax over and above one-half of 1 per cent upon the property is given directly to the support of our free public schools, and the one-half of 1 per cent is, as now, left to the discretion of the legislature to be used for the same purpose. In addition to that, the franchise is also taxed at the same rate as the real estate of the main stem, and the proceeds likewise distributed. This franchise tax at the same rate as other property is paid by the railroads in addition to their other taxes, so that in this way they are taxed more than individuals, and help reduce the amount that individuals would otherwise be compelled to pay. Under these laws the revenues of the state and municipalities should be largely increased and a corresponding reduction made in the tax rate to the benefit of the local taxpayer. In order that the taxpayer may receive the benefit of this increased revenue on railroads and other corporate enterprises, the legislature provided that the tax rate should be gradually reduced from year to year until it reaches a maximum amount. This will prevent municipal extravagance and benefit the taxpayer accordingly.

This legislation was promised in the Republican state platform of 1904, as a reference to that platform will show. It was outlined in the inaugural address of Governor Stokes in January, 1905, and recommended in his first annual message last January. It was in its conception, in its deliberation and in its execution wholly Republican legislation, as the records indubitably show, and was the natural evolution of Republican policy conceived two years ago. The credit belongs, therefore, to no individual or individuals, but to the Republican party as a party.

Limitation of Franchises Also Brought About.

Until the present year there never was any limit on the power of a municipality to grant a public service franchise in perpetuity. Until last year the policy of such grants was never seriously brought in question. But the sentiment of opposition existed in the minds of men who gave some thought to the rights of future generations. The legislature of 1905 appointed a special commission to investigate the subject. It reported in favor of limitation. Governor Stokes, in his annual message last January, devoted a chapter to the subject, recommending a limitation of time for such franchises. The first bill introduced in the senate

at the last session, on Jan. 15, was by Senator Hillery of Morris county, an act limiting public utility franchises to twenty years. As finally passed it permitted a vote of the people to extend the time to forty years, the maximum to be allowed by the law. As it has been, this law was of Republican conception, deliberation and execution.

As to Overcapitalization.

For years complaint has been made throughout the country of the overcapitalization of public utility corporations. In accordance with the suggestion in the governor's message an act preventing such overcapitalization was passed by the Republican legislature.

End of the Fee System.

The final abolition of the fee system in county offices effected this year was the culmination of Republican policy begun in the state offices, where the fees of the chancery and supreme court clerks (aggregating last year \$102,000) were turned into the state treasury. By the abolition of fees in all the counties of the state the public incomes of these counties are increased by nearly half a million dollars annually.

Conserving the Water Supply of the State.

Perhaps the most important legislation enacted under Republican party control during the last two years is that designed to conserve the potable water supply of the state. With our rapidly increasing population, the future demands of growing municipalities for an adequate water supply must be given consideration and attention as a matter of statesmanship. Such legislation was recommended by the governor in both his inaugural address and his first message. Steps have been taken and are being taken that will prove of great benefit to future generations. The preservation of the forests of the state presents one of the most important aspects of the situation.

The forests, long neglected, have been taken under the state care. The state forestry act of 1904, enacted at the suggestion of Governor Stokes in his inaugural address, has been quoted abroad as a model law. Governor Stokes showed that the state's woodlands covered 46 per cent of the upland area, yielding an annual product of \$4,182,537. The new law created a commission which is acquiring extensive tracts of forest land for reservation development and future use as public parks.

The legislature this year authorized the riparian commission to inquire into the possibility of the acquisition of the inland lakes and the state ownership and control of the sources of water supply. The state forestry commission is endeavoring to purchase forest lands around the head water sheds of our streams for this purpose. The wisdom of the legislature, which looks ahead to the acquisition of the inland lakes for public parks by the people, and as reservoirs and storage ponds, the acquisition of all our water supplies, needs no defense in a state whose rapidly growing population makes the question of water supply the most important problem of the day.

A notable and far reaching act by the legislature this year was that which prohibits the piping of potable waters out of the state for commercial profit. In this matter the governor and legislature withstood appeals from prominent national as well as New York public officials and influences. This new law is of immense significance. Control of the watersheds of the state has largely been acquired by private corporations, and plans have been made for diverting their waters to other states. It would not have been very long before the ownership and diversion of state waters would be converted into entrenched vested interests. Republican legislation has anticipated and prevented that.

The governor and legislature inaugurated a new and highly important policy respecting the preservation of the rivers and streams of the state from pollution and for the prevention of disastrous floods. By an agreement effected by the governor the municipalities on the Passaic consented to await the report of an engineering expert employed by Peterson to determine whether that municipality would join in the construction of a sewer. The legislature will be called in extra session in September to pass the necessary legislation. The state also is, through a commission, co-operating with the state of Pennsylvania with a view to the redemption of the Delaware river from pollution. These steps are preliminary to a cleansing up of all the rivers and streams of the state.

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Real Arabian Lace Curtains—Hand-made laces are here in over 90 patterns, all carefully selected; charming for parlors, libraries and for rooms in which mission furniture is used; made in sash and long curtains, 3 to 4 yards long; 36 to 60 inches wide; prices range from 12.00 to 225.00 the pair.

Lacet Lace Curtains—A variety of 70 designs; some for parlors; others for libraries; others for sitting rooms. These have deep, heavy borders and are made in Arabian colors, sash and long curtains; prices range from 6.00 to 75.00 the pair.

Irish Point Curtains—The best known and most popular of all the laces because they are both beautiful and exceptionally serviceable; here in no less than 250 patterns, the designs copied from hand-made laces; sash and long curtains; there are enough to satisfy every one who comes; prices guaranteed as low as any, if not lower, ranging from 2.50 to 25.00 the pair.

Renaissance and Marie Antoinette Curtains—Suitable alike for parlors, libraries, living rooms or bedrooms; one hundred designs; at prices ranging from 2.00 to 55.00 the pair.

Italian Fillet—Hand-made curtains in the largest assortment ever brought to Newark; fully 30 patterns of these very high-class laces are here to choose from. We cannot begin to describe their beauty. Prices range from 20.00 to 200.00 the pair.

Sevenerette Curtains at Half Price—1 lot of 1,000 pairs put in to lead life and spice to the opening—Imported Scotch lace, all desirable patterns; nicely finished; fully 85 designs to choose from in ivory and white; in this sale at just half price. Regular prices, 8.50 to 14.50. Special prices, 4.25 to 7.25.

Storrs' Bonne Femme Sash Curtains—The most elaborate showing to be found in Newark or New York; fully 150 designs to choose from in sizes made to fit any window; prices ranging from 1.50 to 37.50 each.

Buffed Net Sash Curtains—Special—About one thousand pairs all ready to put up, with full ruffle Battenberg lace insertion and edge; full size sash; here in white only; regularly 1.25 a pair; special price 55¢.

Dentelle Arabe—Fine imitation of hand-made lace, very heavily corded, very serviceable; in fifty pretty designs; prices 2.50 to 20.00.

Colored Madras Curtains in conventional, Cathedral, Gothic and floral designs, in many colors and combinations—beautiful things, many of them, fine for use with mission furniture; prices ranging from 3.50 to 30.00.

Nottingham Curtains—The most serviceable curtains made; largely used, an enormous assortment—not less than 300 patterns here to choose from; prices run all the way from 50¢ to 8.00 the pair.

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